

GIVING ACCORDING TO GOD'S PLAN – PART 3

--VARIOUS SCRIPTURES--

INTRODUCTION:

I will be continuing the series on giving. This morning we move into the New Testament, and we are going to see what it says about giving, and just so you know, it says exactly what the Old Testament says. New Testament giving is more clearly defined but it is the same. As with the Old Testament, there are two types of giving addressed in the New Testament. One, pay your taxes; and two give to God whatever you want, there is no amount specified.

I. REQUIRED GIVING IN THE GOSPELS

- a. What was required _____ in the New Testament?
- b. All these taxes had to be paid and Jesus remarks about _____ taxes repeatedly in the Gospels. (Matthew 17:24-27; Matthew 22:15-23; Matthew 23:23)
- c. In Luke 18:12 there is another reference to _____, and it is the only other mention of tithing in the Gospels. (Hebrews 7:1-10)
- d. That is all the Gospels say about tithing, and all of those incidents are referring to Israel paying its _____ to the national government or to Rome, giving them what was due them.

II. REQUIRED GIVING IN THE EPISTLES

- a. Turn to Romans 13 and let's see what the New Testament epistles have to say to the church about _____ giving. (Romans 13:1-2, 6)
- b. When you pay your taxes, you are in the truest sense _____ the work of God. (Malachi 3:8-15; Romans 13:7)

III. FREEWILL GIVING IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- a. Let's go onto _____ giving in the New Testament and this is the type of giving that is truly giving to God.

- b. **Principle number one:** giving is _____ with God. (Luke 6:38; Matthew 6:19-24)
- c. **Principle number two:** giving is to be _____. (Mark 12:41-44; Philippians 4:18-19)
- d. **Principle number three:** giving is not a _____ of what you have. (Luke 16:10; 2 Corinthians 8:2)
- e. **Principle number four:** giving affects spiritual _____. (Luke 16:11)
- f. **Principle number five:** the amount you give is personally _____. (Luke 19:8; 2 Corinthians 8:9)
- g. **Principle number six:** giving is to be in response to _____. (2 Corinthians 8; Acts 2)
- h. **Principle number seven:** giving is to demonstrate _____ not law. (2 Corinthians 8:8; 9:7)
- i. **Principle number eight:** giving is to be _____. (1 Corinthians 16:1-2)
- j. **Principle number nine:** giving is to be _____. (2 Corinthians 8:2; 9:5-6; Philippians 4:19)
- k. **Principle number ten:** giving generously results in _____. (2 Corinthians 9:6, 8, 10-11)

CONCLUSION:

I want to give you some practical counsel when it comes to following these 10 principles of giving. The purpose was to introduce a way to help meet the needs in our church family and community. This opportunity is not to replace our regular offering, it is in addition to it. Also, it is not intended for you to give to it and not to the church. My counsel is that you should give to the church first and this is because the local church is the primary source of teaching. It should be the primary recipient of your giving. (Galatians 6:6; 1 Corinthians 9:14) The love offering is for offerings above what you regularly give to the church. Let me reiterate, give regularly and deliberately, give sacrificially and generously with a cheerful heart. If you follow the principles in Scripture, you will find God's blessings far outweigh any sacrifice you may make. No wonder the Lord Jesus said, "*It is more blessed to give than to receive.*"(Acts 20:35b, NASB95)